

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
11 December 2003 (11.12.2003)

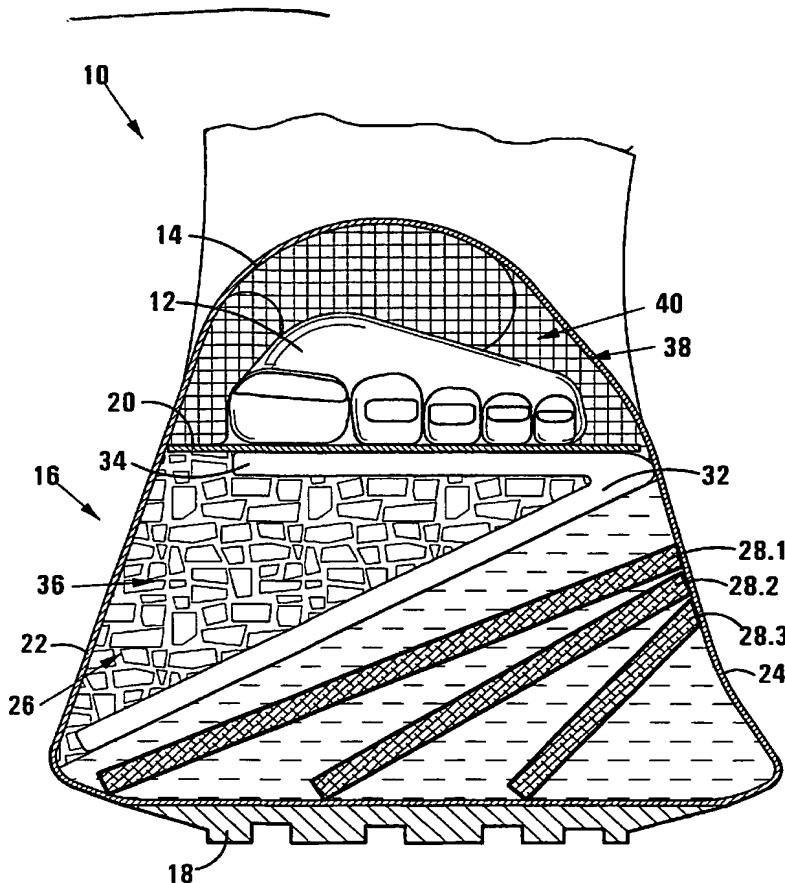
PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
WO 03/101234 A2

- (51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: A43B
- (21) International Application Number: PCT/IB03/02032
- (22) International Filing Date: 27 May 2003 (27.05.2003)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:  
2002/4368 31 May 2002 (31.05.2002) ZA  
2002/4480 5 June 2002 (05.06.2002) ZA  
2003/0684 24 January 2003 (24.01.2003) ZA
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- (81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE,

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(54) Title: PROTECTIVE FOOTWEAR



(57) Abstract: An article of protective footwear in the form of a boot (10) protects a foot (12) of a user against effects of a landmine explosion. A composite sole volume (16) between an outer sole (18) and an inner sole (20) incorporates shock wave guide elements (28) of a material having a high acoustic speed, in the form of glass strips which extend spatially from the outer sole (18) obliquely laterally outwardly to a side of the sole volume. The strips (28) are surrounded by liquid. Above the strips (28) and below the inner sole (20), there is provided a barrier of material having a low acoustic speed, e.g. vermiculite. Surrounding the foot (12), opposed to the sole of the foot, there is provided a fluid having a high acoustic speed, e.g. glycerin to ensure effective transfer of any shock wave component entering the foot, away from the foot.

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